UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

392 Federal Building U. S. Court House
110 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

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February 10, 1964

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

[redacted]

In Minneapolis, has always been a very good friend of the Minneapolis Office, a staunch supporter of the FBI, and an ardent admirer of you. Late Friday afternoon, February 7, 1964, he dropped in to see me, and after a short visit stated that he had a matter on his mind that was of great concern to him. He stated that during a recent trip to Washington, he had occasion to visit, both socially and officially, with a group of individuals in the Justice Department whom he described as the "Kennedy crowd". [redacted] stated that these individuals openly discussed how they were doing everything they could to stir up the "Bobby Baker mess", with the avowed purpose of trying to embarrass the President in every way possible. He added that certain individuals in the group had inferred that they hoped to create a situation whereby the President would be forced to pick the Attorney General, Robert Kennedy, as his running mate in order to assure his re-election. (b)(7)(c)

He further stated that they were supposed to have remarked that prior to the assassination of President Kennedy, they had intended to use the Baker issue as a means of freezing Mr. Johnson out as Vice President.

At the first opportunity I pointed out to [redacted] that this was all very interesting, but that I didn't see where I, or the FBI, entered into the picture. He stated that he fully realized that the activities of this group amounted to nothing more than "dirty politics", but that he had heard something else he felt I should know. (b)(7)(c)

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He claimed that this same group openly criticized you and the FBI, and indicated that they would like to break up the excellent relationship that exists between you and President Johnson. [redacted] was either reluctant, or not able, to elaborate on just what it was that these individuals were critical about. As to actual identities of the members of the group, all he would say was that it was "that wide-eyed bunch around the Attorney General". He did say that he had heard nothing that would directly connect the Attorney General with the reported plans of this group, but that inasmuch as they were all close to the Attorney General, he felt that they could possibly be repeating or expressing his views. (b)(7)(c)

He also expressed great concern if it should ever get back to them that he had discussed this with anyone in the FBI, stating that they were real "hard-nosed politicians", and would have no reluctance in causing him trouble.

[redacted] has been acquainted with Senator Hubert Humphrey for many years, both socially and politically, and is indebted to him for his present position. He is intensely loyal to the Senator, and naturally one of his staunchest supporters so that it is entirely possible that he is merely repeating something that he picked up in the Senator's Office during his visit to Washington. Also, in view of Senator Humphrey's acknowledged interest himself in the possibility of becoming Vice President, it could be that this has slanted [redacted] feelings and remarks. In either event, he did seem quite upset over what he claimed to have picked up. (b)(7)(c)

At first I was prone to dismiss the entire matter from my mind as it just didn't seem possible that any one group or faction could be in a position to do the things that [redacted] claimed. However, in view of the alleged remarks about you and the Bureau, I felt I should pass them on to you, as vague as they are. (b)(7)(c)

Sincerely yours,

Richard G. Held

RICHARD G. HELD
Special Agent in Charge

I believe the President is alert to this.